

Canoe River Mill  
Norton Vicinity  
Bristol County  
Massachusetts

HAER No. MA-15

HAER  
MASS,  
3-NORT.V,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

CANOE RIVER MILL

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Date: ca. 1730-ca. 1960.

Location: Norton Vic.  
Bristol County, MA.

Owner: No longer extant. Demolished 1960s.

Significance: The mill complex on the Canoe River was in continuous use from the time of its construction about 1730 until the mid-twentieth century. Originally established as a saw-mill, a grist mill was added within the same structure soon after, reportedly at the eastern end of the building. In 1811, the Norton Cotton Mill Company assumed control of the saw and grist mills, and constructed a cotton mill powered by water from the mill pond. The complex was rebuilt on the original fieldstone foundation, and enlarged sometime after 1882. The gristmill declined on the late nineteenth century, but the sawmill continued operations until the middle of the twentieth century. The complex except its foundations and dam, was destroyed in the 1960s.